

# **2015 BOULDER VALLEY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE**

**Joint Board Meeting  
Aug 29, 2016**

**OUR LEGACY.  
OUR FUTURE.**

**BOULDER VALLEY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN**

*Photo: Christopher Brown, 2004*

# WELCOME!

## Agenda:

### 1—Presentation, Q&A

A. Policy Integration Edits

B. Preliminary Scenarios, Concepts, Policy Choices

### 2—Discussion

A. Small Groups (1 hr.)

B. Report out (10 min.)

### 3—Wrap up

# PURPOSE

- 1 – General BVCP Update and Events
- 2 – Update on Policy Integration
- 3 – Discussion; input to further shape:
  - A. Land use scenarios, concepts, and housing prototypes
  - B. Key policy choices





# ABOUT THE UPDATE

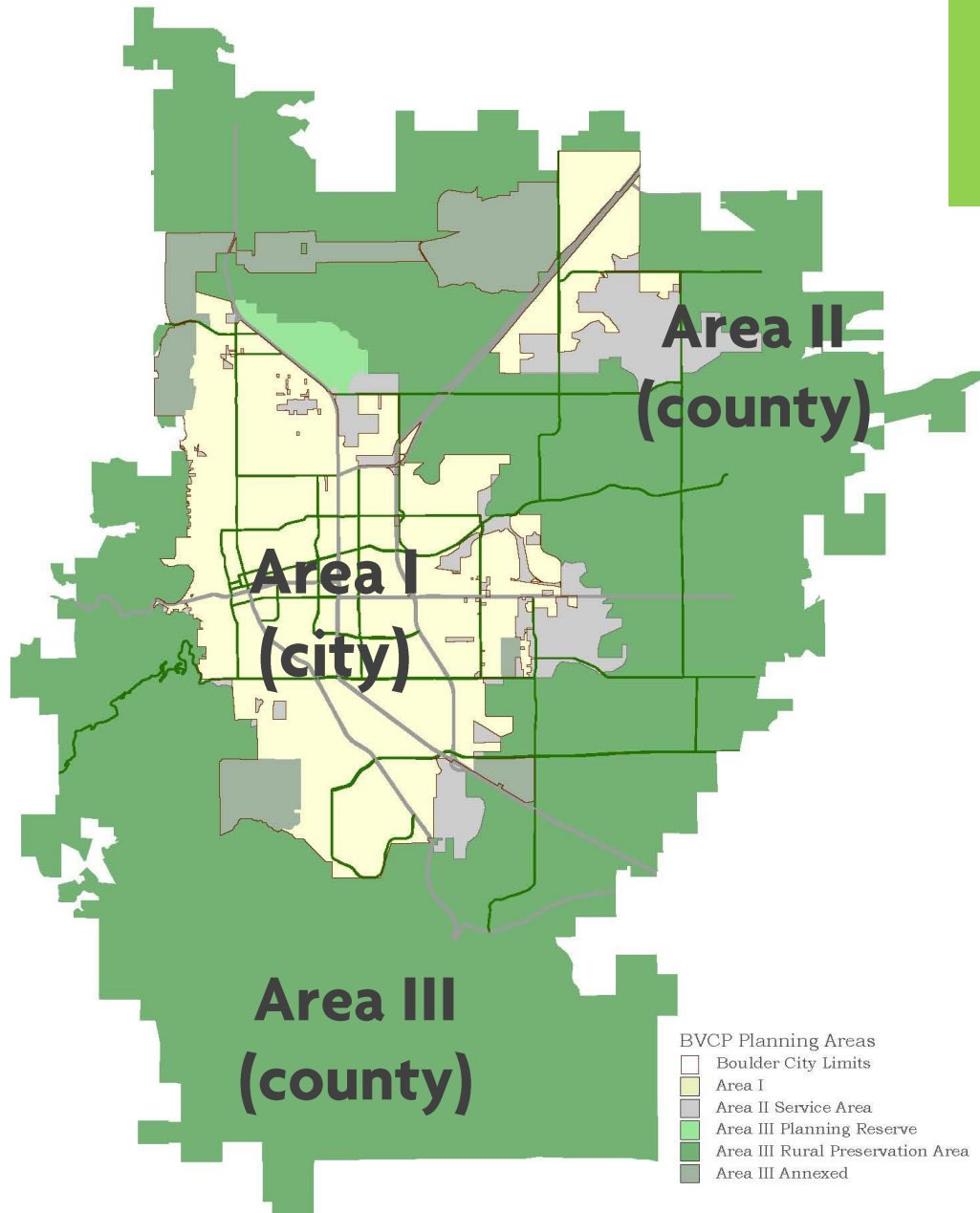
**OUR LEGACY.  
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*Photo: Christopher Brown, 2004*

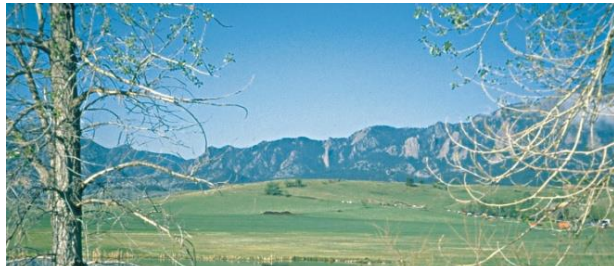
# A PLAN FOR BOULDER VALLEY

City and county  
jointly adopted since  
1977, IGA





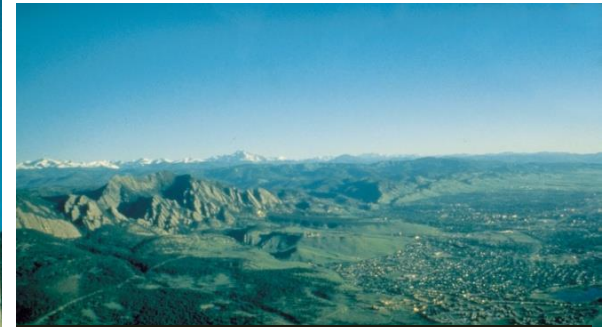
# LONG-STANDING CORE VALUES



**STEWARDSHIP,  
CLIMATE ACTION**



**CITY/COUNTY COOPERATION**



**COMPACT, CONTIGUOUS**



**ALL MODES  
TRANSPORTATION**



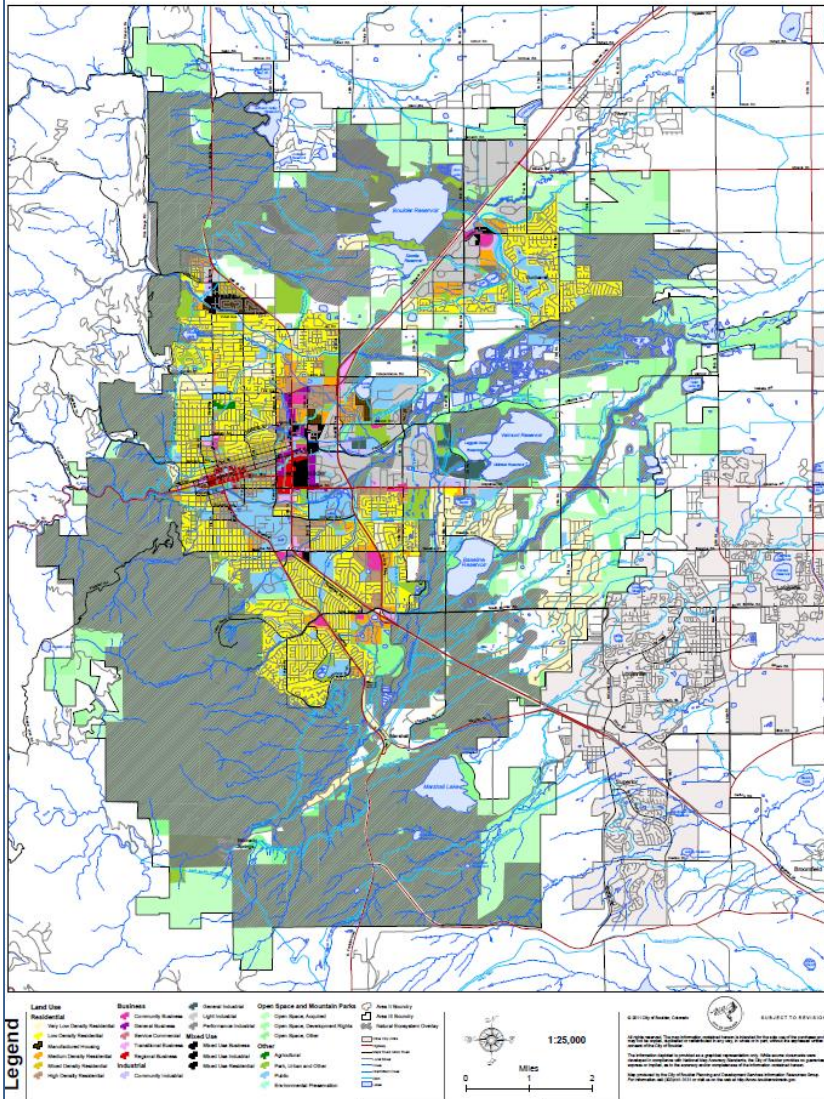
**INCLUSIVE, VIBRANT**



**GREAT NEIGHBORHOODS**

# FUTURE LAND USE (2010)

Boulder Valley Comprehensive Plan Land Use Designation Map



Implemented as follows...

Boulder Valley Comp Plan

Area I, II, III, Annexation

Land Use Map

Zoning

Site Planning

By-right or  
site review of  
development  
project

# WHAT IS HAPPENING IN THIS PROCESS

1. Data & Analysis + Kickoff  
Spring & Summer 2015

2. Community Listening Sessions, Survey,  
Identify Focus Topics Fall 2015

3. Develop and Analyze Scenarios – Get Feedback  
Summer & Fall 2016

4. Draft Plan – Late 2016 – Early 2017

**Community  
Input  
Informs  
Each Phase**



# CURRENT DISCUSSION—TRACKS

1. Public map change requests
2. **Policy updates and integration**
3. CU South analysis
4. **Focus Areas: Scenarios and Key Policy Updates**

# UPCOMING COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

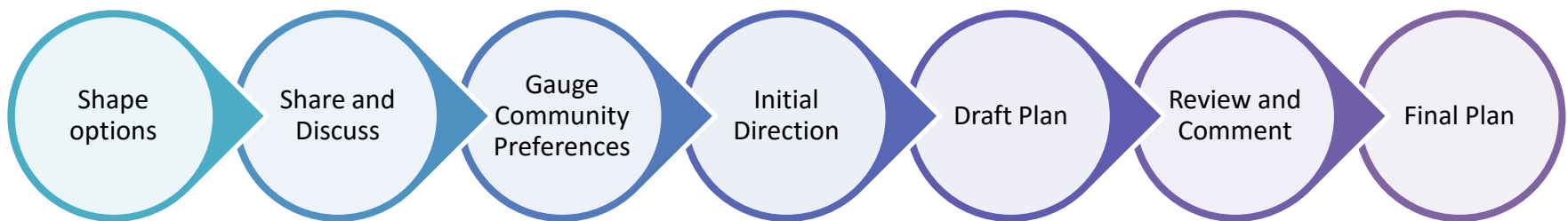
- ❑ Hearing for 4-body requests (Aug. 30)
- ❑ Meetings for public requests and CU South (Sept. 26)
- ❑ Pop-up Meetings (Sept. - Oct.)
- ❑ Local Area Meetings (Oct. 3 - 27)
- ❑ Survey #2 (Oct. – Nov.)
- ❑ Meetings with organizations and neighborhood groups (ongoing)



[WWW.BoulderValleyCompPlan.net](http://WWW.BoulderValleyCompPlan.net)

# HOW INPUT GETTING USED?

1. Today's comments will help shape the scenarios and options to be discussed widely with the community in October
2. All input and preferences will be summarized and shared with decision-makers







# POLICY INTEGRATION

**OUR LEGACY.  
OUR FUTURE.**

**BOULDER VALLEY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN**

*Photo: Christopher Brown, 2004*

# POLICY INTEGRATION

- 1. Purpose:** to integrate policies from updated master plans and reflect approved policies
- 2. Does not include:** other focused changes (e.g., housing, community benefit, or urban design policies) or outcomes of scenarios
- 3. Next:** Additional editing, consolidation, and slight reorganization into new chapters, addition of emerging themes

# PLAN AND IMPLEMENTATION





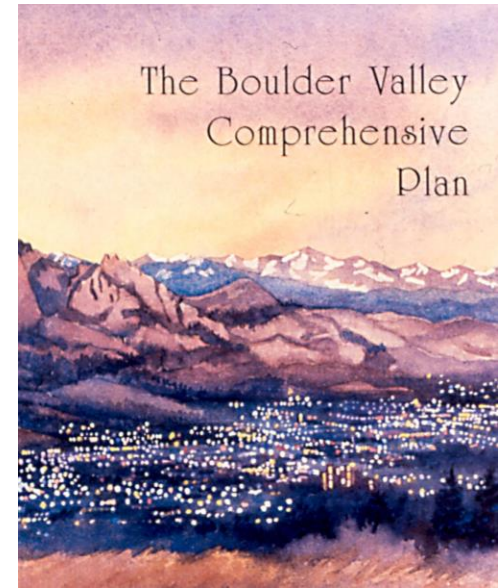
# PROPOSED PLAN REORGANIZATION

## 1. Vision and Values

## 2. How the Plan is Implemented

## 3. Policies:

1. Livable Community and High Quality Built Environment
2. Environmentally Sustainable Community
3. Economically Vital Community
4. Accessible and Connected Community
5. Housing for the Community
6. Healthy and Socially Thriving Community
7. Safe and Prepared Community
8. Good Governance and Community Engagement



# **REORGANIZATION CONT.**

**4. Land Use Map Descriptions**

**5. Subcommunities and Area Planning**

- Including 1-2 page descriptions for each subcommunity

**6. Implementation and Master Plans, Trails Plan**

**7. Amendment Procedures**

**8. Urban Service Criteria**

**And Maps**

# POLICY INTEGRATION – CURRENT WORK

## 1. Longstanding Core Values

## 2. Policy updates/integration:

- ☐ Sec. 3—Natural Environment
- ☐ Sec. 4—Energy and Climate
- ☐ Sec. 5—Economy
- ☐ Sec. 6—Transportation
- ☐ Sec. 8—Community Well-being
- ☐ Sec. 9—Agriculture and Food





# POLICY INTEGRATION: NEXT STEPS

## *All Comments - Sept. 23*

- Public review – open house, online, meetings
- Board review for relevant sections
- Continued review by county and other staff

## *Revised Draft – Oct. 7*

Initial approval *of those chapters only*  
by Planning Board - Oct. 20, if ready

An aerial photograph of a mountain range. The foreground shows a valley with green fields and some small buildings. The middle ground features a large, forested mountain with prominent, light-colored rock formations. The background shows more distant mountain peaks under a clear blue sky.

# SCENARIOS AND CONCEPTS

An aerial photograph of a town. The town is densely packed with buildings, many of which have red roofs. There are many green trees interspersed among the buildings. The town appears to be situated in a valley, with hills visible in the background.

**OUR LEGACY.  
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# RELATED AREAS OF FOCUS

1. Jobs:Housing Balance
2. Design Quality
3. Diverse and affordable housing
4. Climate, energy, and resilience
5. Subcommunity planning areas

## AREAS OF FOCUS

During each 5-year update, the planning team identifies "Areas of Focus" to respond to changing circumstances, community needs, and pressing issues. These topics are identified through the analysis of trends from the foundations work that kicked off the plan update, a great deal of community input, and direction from the decision-making bodies. Addressing the Areas of Focus will guide policy and potential land use during this plan update.

### HOUSING AFFORDABILITY AND DIVERSITY

Explore land use options to better achieve affordable and diverse housing as appropriate in different parts of Boulder.



### CLIMATE CHANGE, ENERGY, AND RESILIENCE

Strengthen policies to reflect city's climate commitment and resilience strategy.



### BALANCE OF FUTURE JOBS AND HOUSING

Explore land use options to improve the balance of future housing and jobs and consider important trade-offs.



### URBAN DESIGN AND COMMUNITY BENEFITS

Improve the plan's direction on design, activity centers, height, mixed use, development requirements and the public realm.



### TARGETED ASSESSMENT AND PLANNING

for CU South and the Boulder Community Project: Alpine-Balsam



### ADDRESSING LOCAL NEEDS

Share information about unique local qualities in subcommunities and identify future needs for planning at the subcommunity or area level.



[www.BoulderValley.org](http://www.BoulderValley.org)  
Stop by anytime for information, in-depth analysis, updates, and more.



# SCENARIO OBJECTIVES

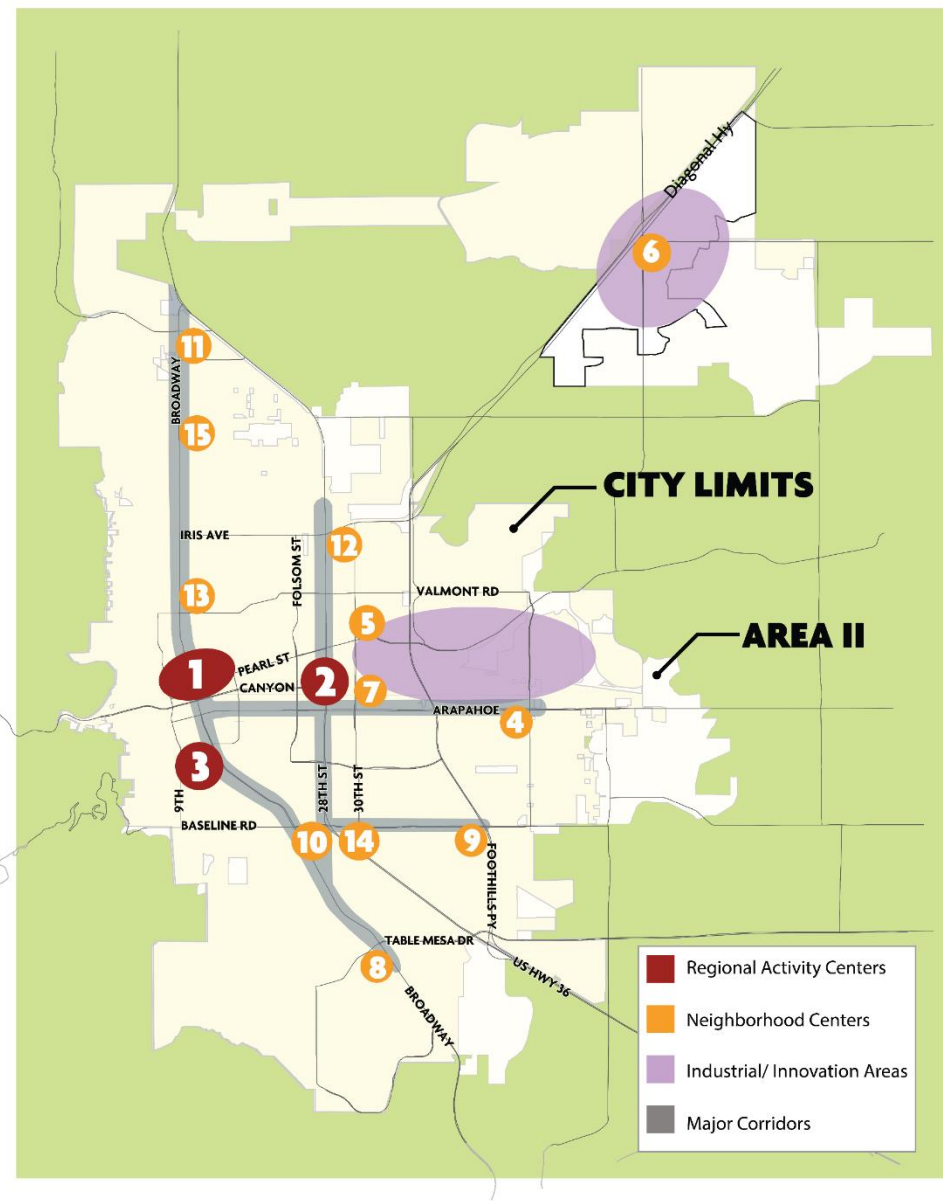
1. Accomplishing BVCP **sustainability goals** (e.g., open space protection) and reducing regional impacts;
2. Achieving **diverse and affordable housing** (including for middle incomes);
3. Better **balancing jobs and housing**;
4. Achieving **climate mitigation** goals;
5. Improving **walkability, neighborhood amenities, and providing nearby local services**; and
6. Maintaining **economic vitality**, existing businesses



# LAND USE CHOICES – DISTINCT AREAS

Areas appropriate (or not) for changing land use:

1. Regional Activity Centers
2. Neighborhood Centers
3. Industrial/Innovation Areas
4. Major corridors



## Map Key

1. Downtown
2. 29th Street
3. University Hill commercial area
4. 55th and Arapahoe
5. Boulder Junction (30th and Pearl)
6. Gunbarrel Town Center
7. North of Arapahoe (30th-38th St.)
8. Table Mesa Center
9. Meadows Community Center
10. Basemar (near Baseline and Broadway)
11. North Boulder/North Broadway
12. Diagonal Plaza
13. Alpine/Balsam (hospital)
14. Baseline & US 36
15. Lucky's Market

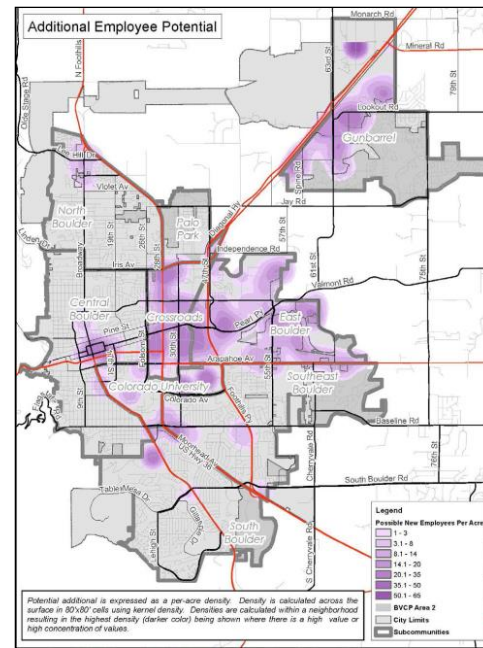
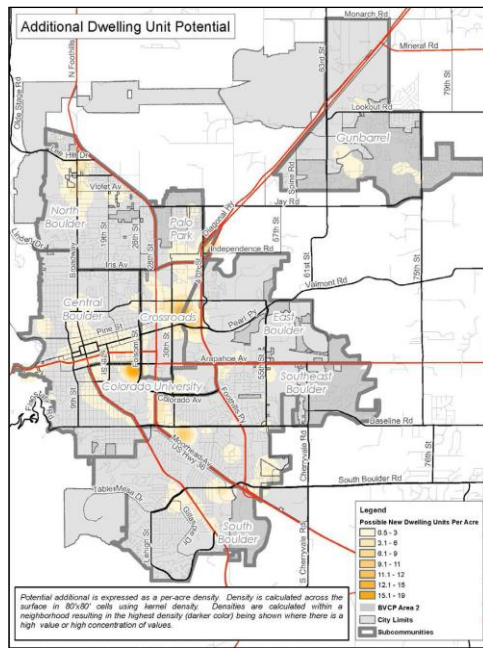
# 2040 PROJECTIONS

**2015: 51,450 dwelling units; 98,510 jobs**

**Projected 2040 (City and Area II):**

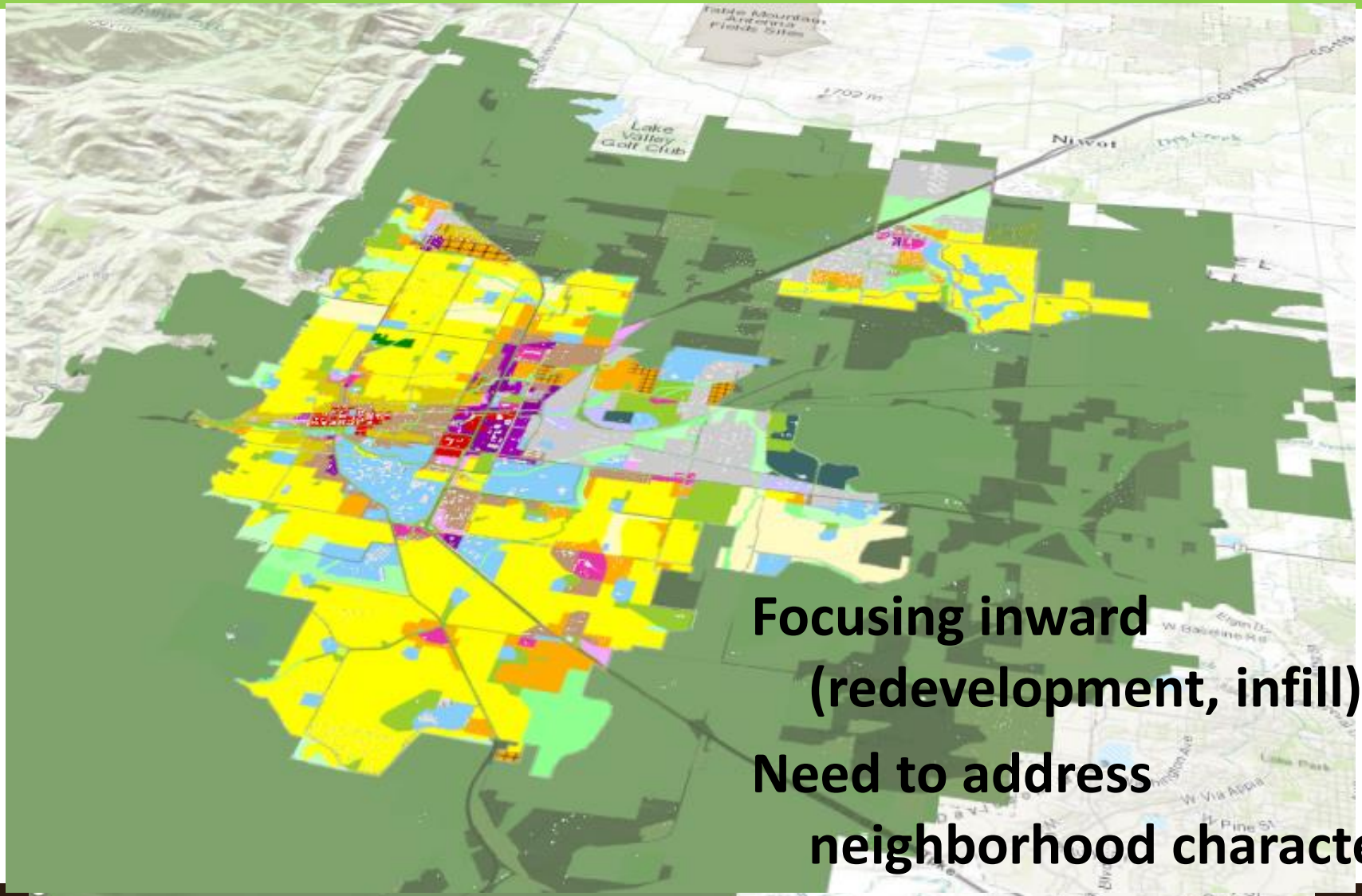
- 6,750 dwelling units (total of 58,200)
- 19,200 jobs (total of 120,000)

**Zoned Capacity: 36,000 jobs (total of 156,500)**





# ASSUMPTIONS

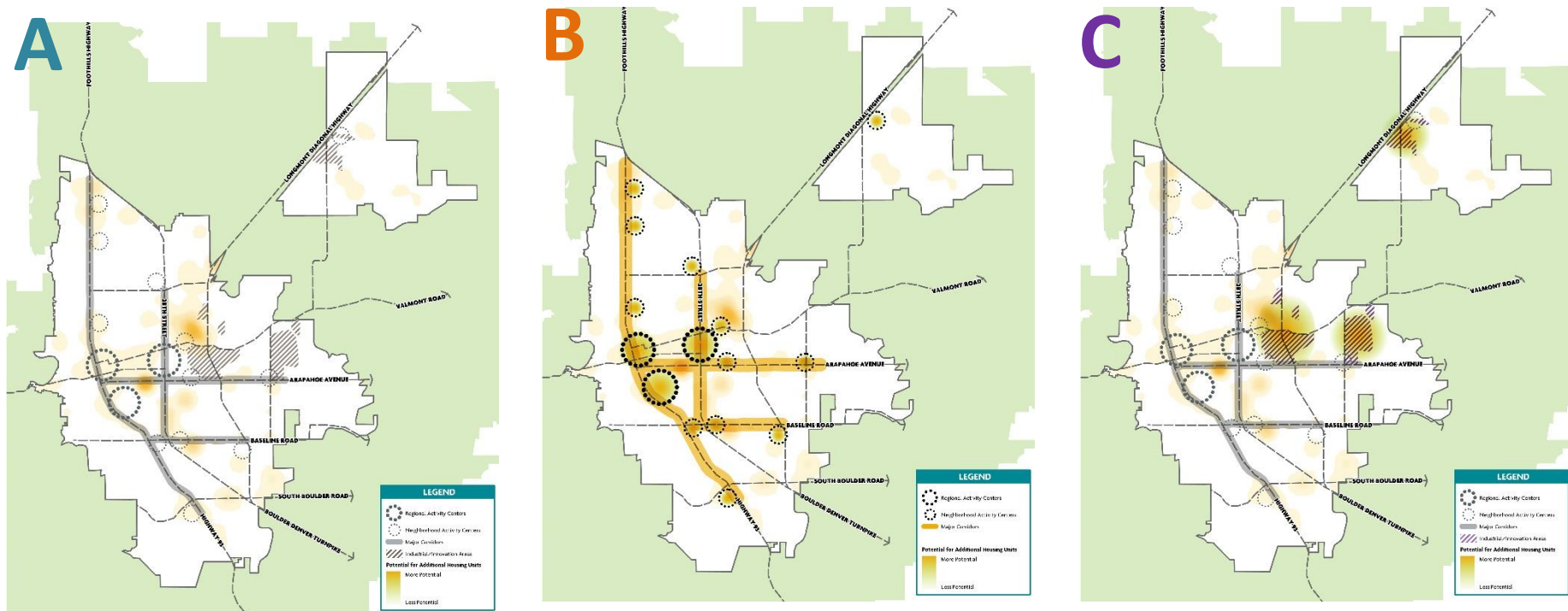


# CITYWIDE SCENARIOS

**A. Current Policy**

**B. Current Policy + Focus on Centers and Corridors**

**C. Current Policy + Focus on Light Industrial Areas**



**D. Policy: Nonresidential Growth Management**

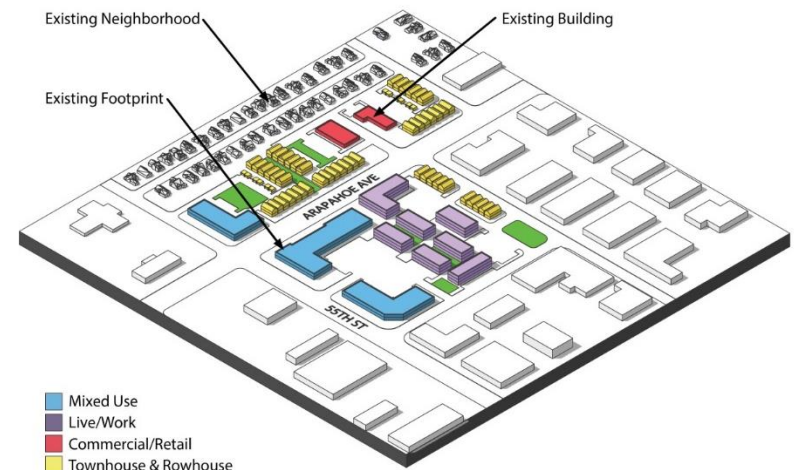
# ABOUT THE SCENARIOS

- ☐ Assumptions (not open space or rural areas, Residential Growth Management, infill and redevelopment)
- ☐ Mix and match land use concepts and components for Scenarios A-C:
  - Corridors
  - Centers (neighborhood and regional)
  - Industrial/Innovation Areas
- ☐ Residential concepts not embedded -can stand alone
- ☐ Policy Option D can stand alone



# FOR EACH SCENARIO AND AREA

- Generalized depiction of massing, housing prototypes, and mix of uses. **CityEngine** for citywide context and analysis
- Annotated diagram(s):
  - Housing prototypes reflected
  - Housing units by type
  - Square feet of non-residential
  - Unique considerations (e.g. transitions)



Neighborhood Center

# LAND USE MODEL AND VISUALIZATIONS



Preparing street level visualizations and aerial views to depict concepts and choices



# HOUSING PROTOYPES

For corridors, centers, industrial areas:

- ☐ Rowhouse/townhouse
- ☐ Live/work units
- ☐ micro unit, etc.





# SCENARIO A

## A – Current Land Use Policy By 2040:

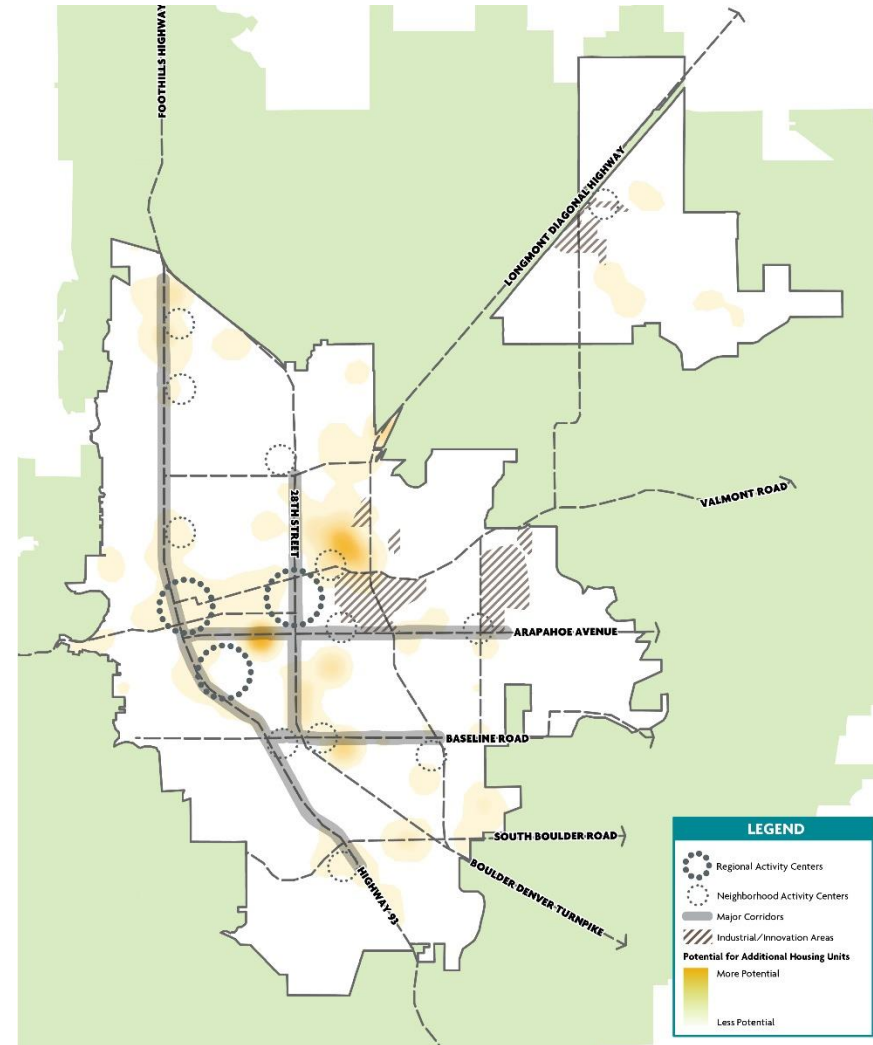
- 6,750 new housing units (58,200 total)
- 19,000 new jobs (120,000 total)

### Zoning Capacity:

- same for housing
- 36,000 addl. jobs (156,500 total)

### Would take:

- No significant land use changes



# SCENARIO B: CENTERS, CORRIDORS

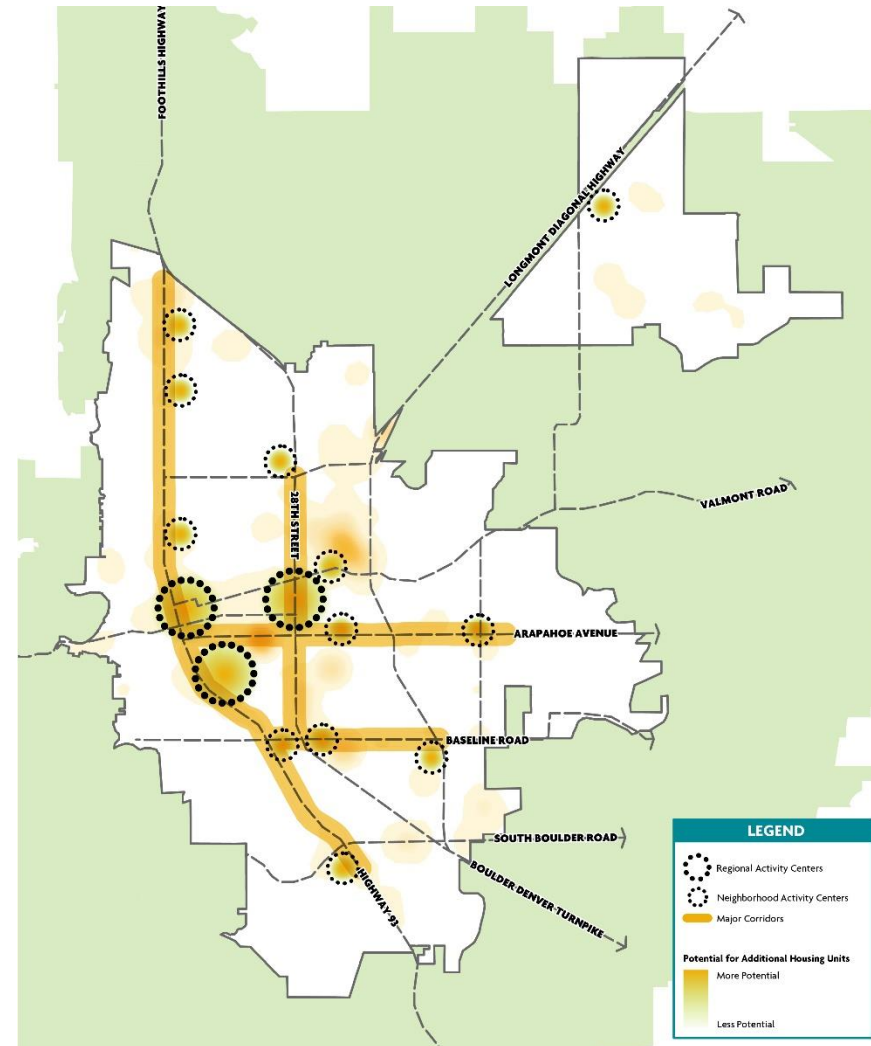
## B – Current Policy + Focus in Centers and Corridors

### By 2040:

- 10,500 to 12,800 new housing units (up to 64,300 units)
- 19,000 new jobs (120,000 total)

### Zoning Capacity:

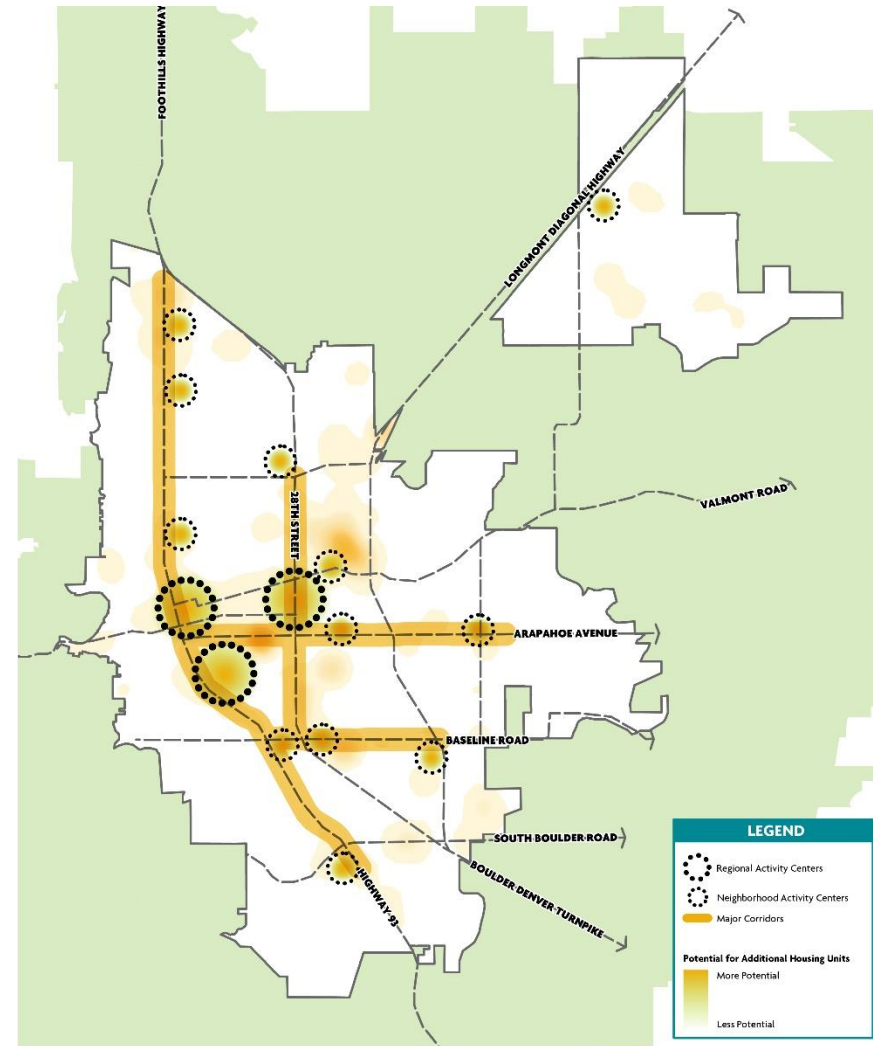
- *Same as 2040 for housing*
- 145,500 jobs total = slightly reduced to offset higher housing range



# SCENARIO B: CENTERS, CORRIDORS

## Would take:

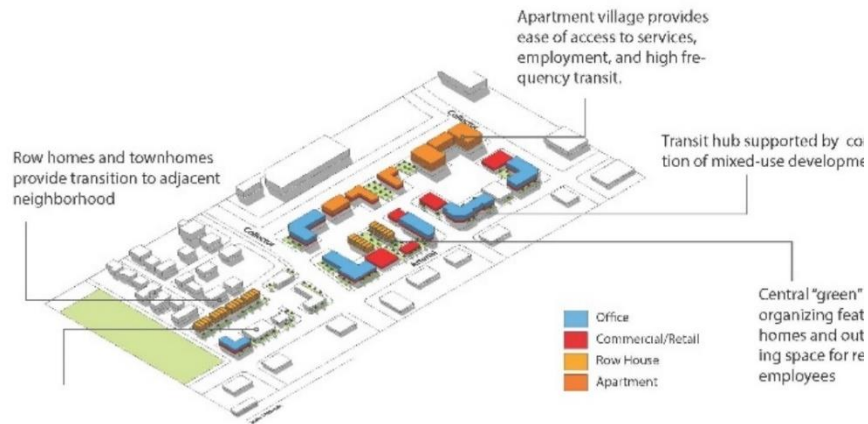
- Possible land use changes (CB, MUR, GB) (then... standards for BC-1, BC-2, BMS, and BR-1)
- Policies for centers and corridors, character, transitions
- Policies about intensity, incentive-based zoning (affordable housing, middle)



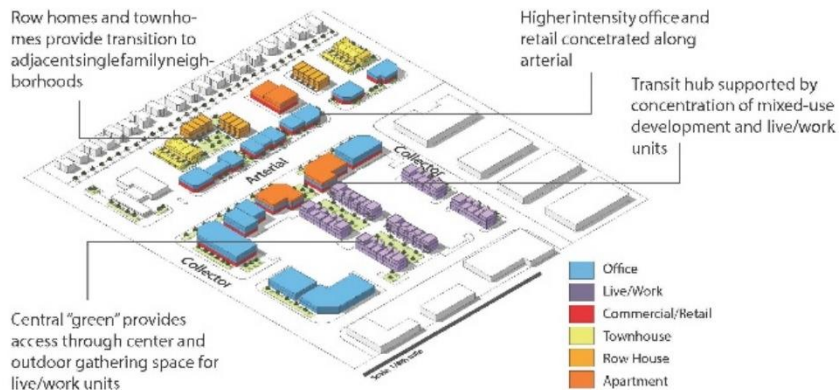


# CENTER CONCEPTS

## Regional and Neighborhood Centers



Current BVCP Land Use Designation (2010 Plan)

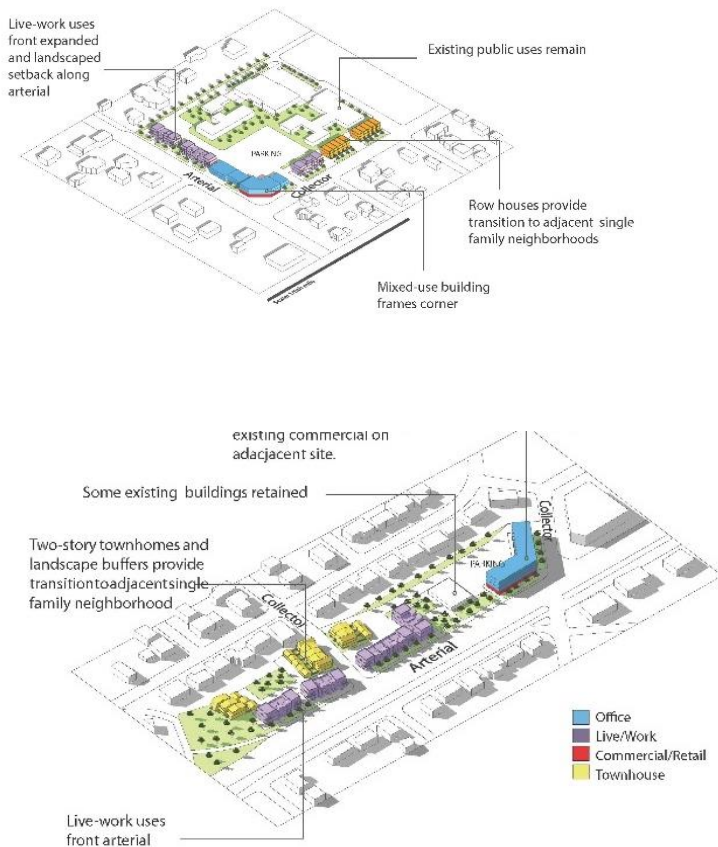


*To illustrate ideas such as:*

- Mix of uses
- Amenities
- Walkable connections
- Transitions
- Local retail services

# CORRIDOR CONCEPTS

## Residential Mixed Use



*To illustrate ideas such as:*

- Lower intensity than centers
- Transitions to residential areas
- Streetscape
- Pedestrian connections

# SCENARIO C: INDUSTRIAL/INNOVATION

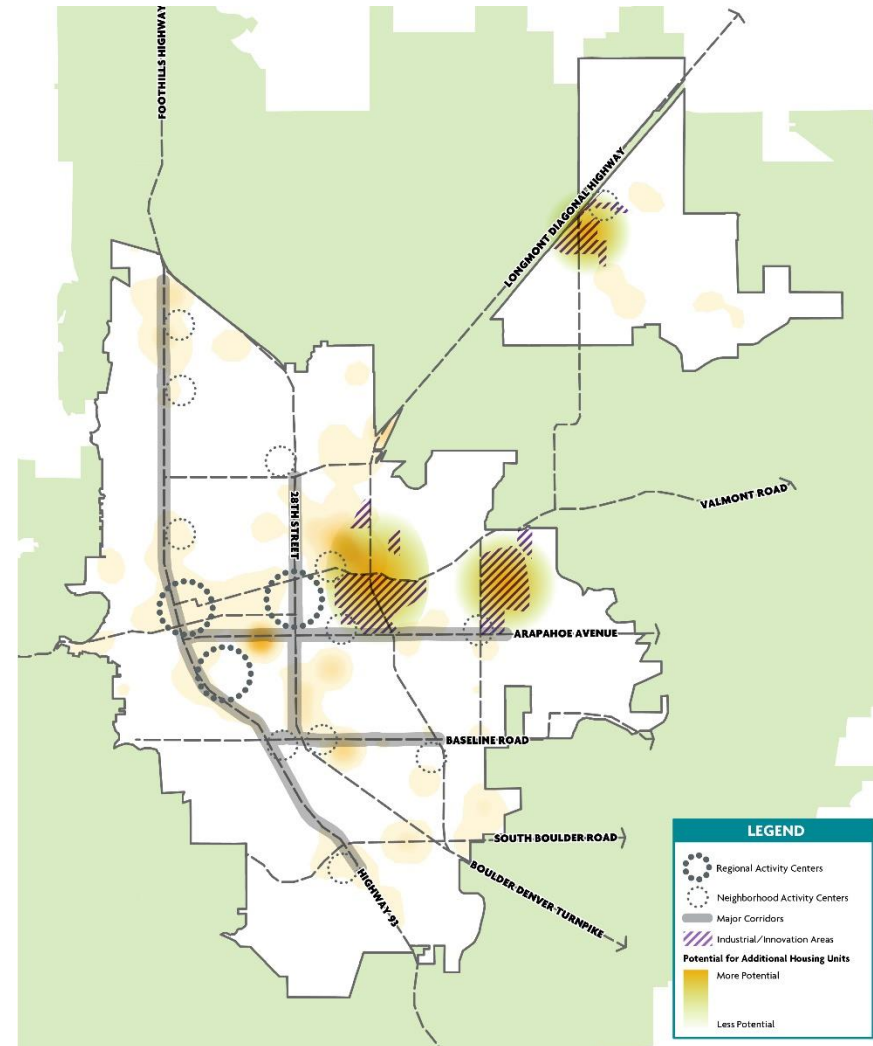
## C – Current Policy + Housing Focus in Light Industrial Areas

### By 2040:

- 10,500 to 12,800 new housing units (up to 64,300 units)
- 19,000 new jobs (120,000 total)

### Zoning Capacity:

- *Same as 2040 for housing*
- 145,500 jobs total = slightly reduced to offset higher housing range

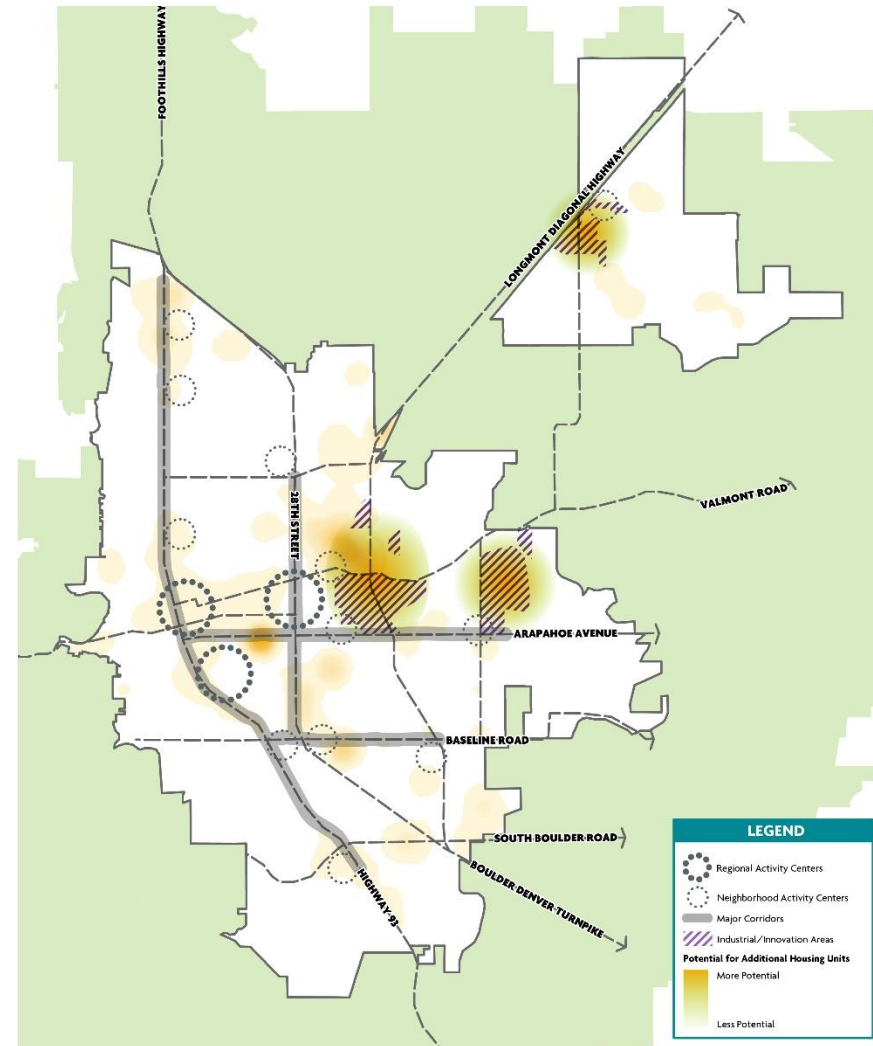




# SCENARIO C: INDUSTRIAL/INNOVATION

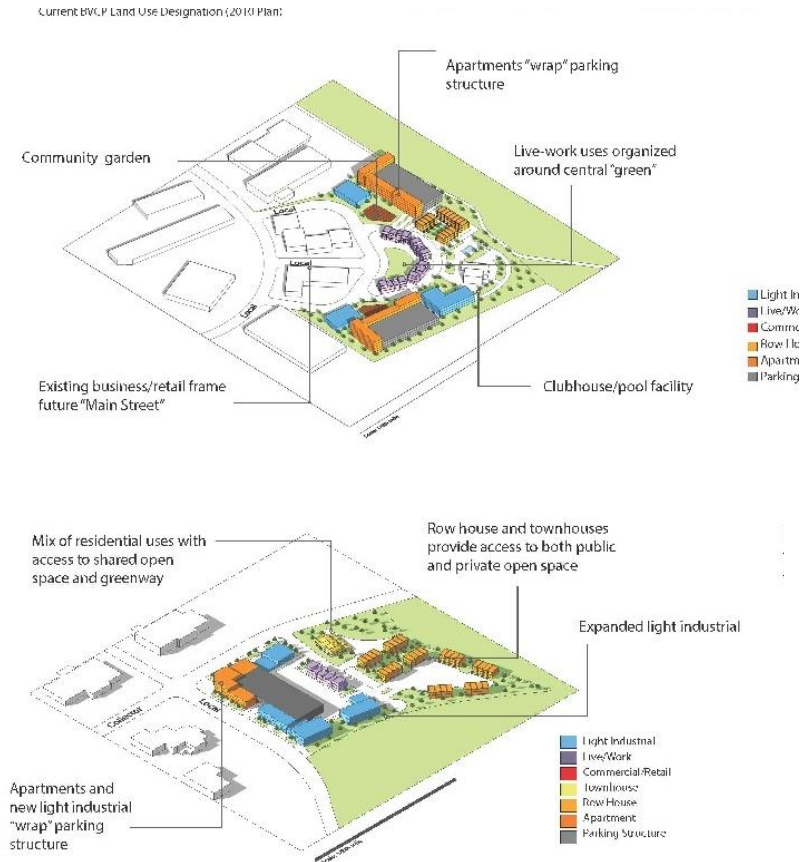
## Would take:

- Possible overlay or designation of parts of light industrial area (LI) to achieve housing and mix of locally serving uses
- Continued service industrial
- Transportation and amenities planning



# INDUSTRIAL/INNOVATION CONCEPTS

## PARTS OF LIGHT INDUSTRIAL AREA



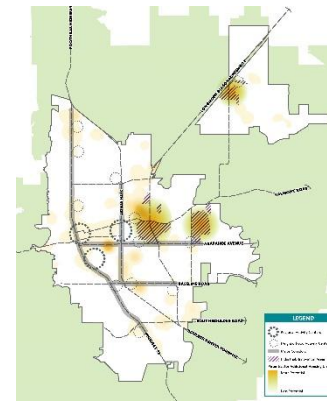
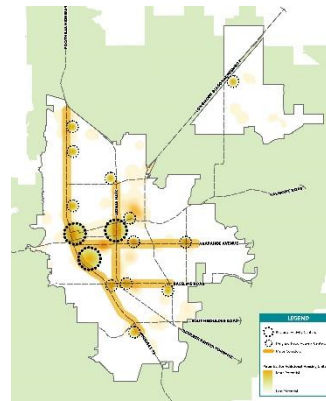
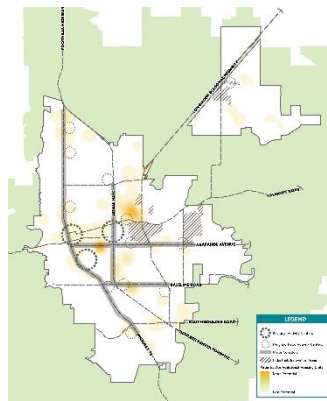
*To illustrate ideas such as:*

- Evolving business parks
- Greater mix of uses (e.g., eateries)
- Improved amenities
- Connections
- Open space, parks, trails
- Local energy generation

# POLICY OPTION D

## Analyzing benefits/impacts of Nonresidential Growth Management

- As Residential Growth Management Strategy -  
Would limit future growth in nonresidential square footage (and jobs) to keep pace with residential
- Applying to new nonresidential
- Could work with any of previous scenarios





# ANALYSIS

## In September... with assistance from technical consultants:

- **Clarion, StudioINSIGHT:** land use mix and housing
- **Nelson Nygaard:** Transportation model and qualitative input on concepts
- **Keyser Marten:** Community benefit, qualitative input on fiscal impacts, housing affordability gaps
- **Integral:** GhGs, energy

### Goals/Indicators



#### HEALTHY & SOCIALLY THRIVING COMMUNITY

##### Increase Access to Nature

Increase access to publicly accessible open space.



#### LIVABLE

##### Better Balance Jobs and Housing

Better link the area's housing options with what people working in the area can afford.

##### Improve Housing Choices

Provide a mix of housing unit types and prices that supports the city's missing middle goals (e.g., micro units, walk-ups/flats, townhomes, accessory units, triplexes, townhomes).

##### Provide Housing in 15-Minute Neighborhoods

Increase the share of residents in walkable 15 minute neighborhoods - toward the TMP goal of 80%.



#### ACCESSIBLE & CONNECTED

##### Increase Street Connectivity

Improve the connectivity of local streets for more travel options.

##### Enhance Travel Options

Increase the proportion of non single occupancy vehicle commuters.

##### Manage Traffic Congestion

Reduce vehicle miles traveled consistent with Transportation Master Plan goals.

##### Transportation Demand Management and Managed Parking

Achieve the optimal supply and demand balance of parking relative to costs.



#### ENVIRONMENTALLY SUSTAINABLE

##### Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Reduce building and transportation related greenhouse gas emissions consistent with the city's Climate Commitment goals.

##### Reduce Building Energy Use

Reduce per capita building energy use.

##### Expand Renewable Energy Generation

Provide opportunities for on-site or district-based energy generation.



#### ECONOMICALLY VITAL

##### Maintain Employment Diversity

Preserve land designated for employment uses to maintain current jobs to housing ratio.

##### Minimize Fiscal Impacts

Achieve an optimal city return on investment between revenues and infrastructure and service costs.

##### Maintain Commercial and Industrial Affordability

Keep commercial and industrial rents and purchase prices at or below current trends.



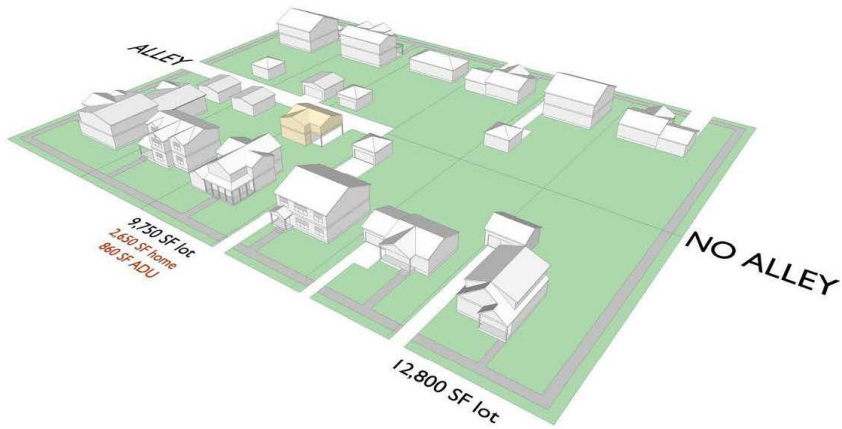
#### SAFE

##### Reduce Bicycle and Pedestrian Conflict Points

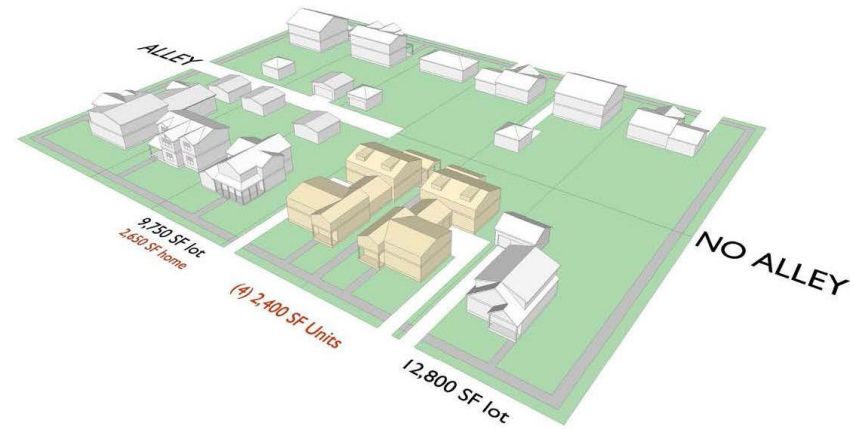
Establish progress towards "Vision Zero" serious and fatal bicycle and pedestrian accidents.

# RESIDENTIAL INFILL IDEAS

OPTION 1 - REAR YARD ACCESSORY DWELLING UNIT



OPTION 7 - DOUBLE LOT COTTAGE COURT



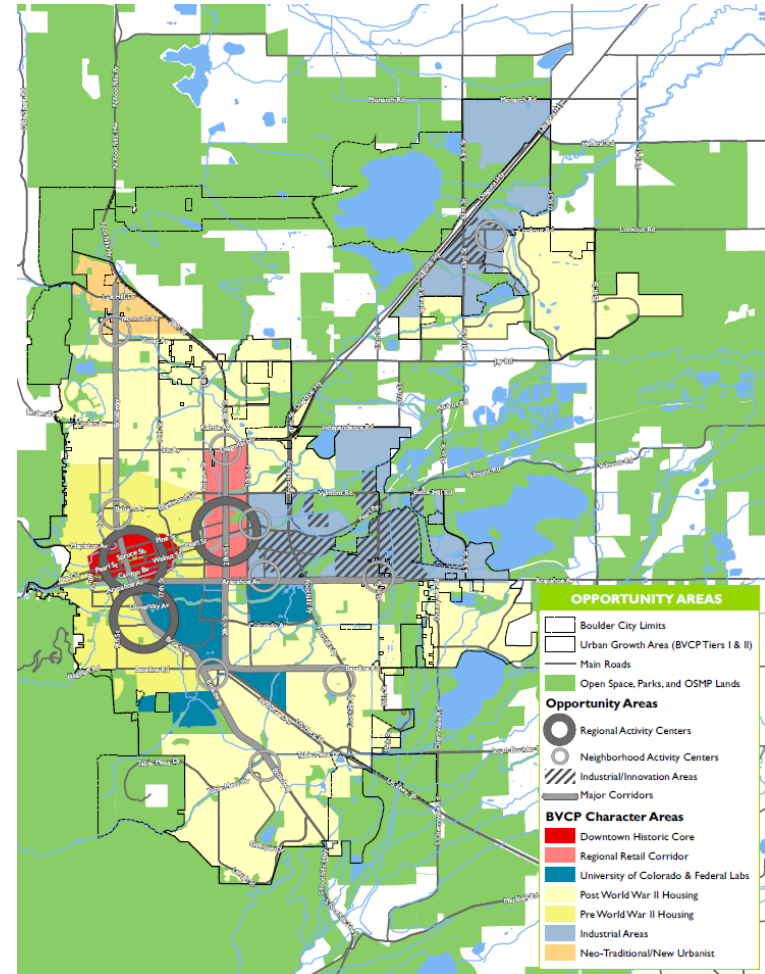
# POLICY CHOICES: GROWTH MANAGEMENT

1. Jobs Housing Balance, non residential growth management (1.19)
2. Community Benefit – definition and types

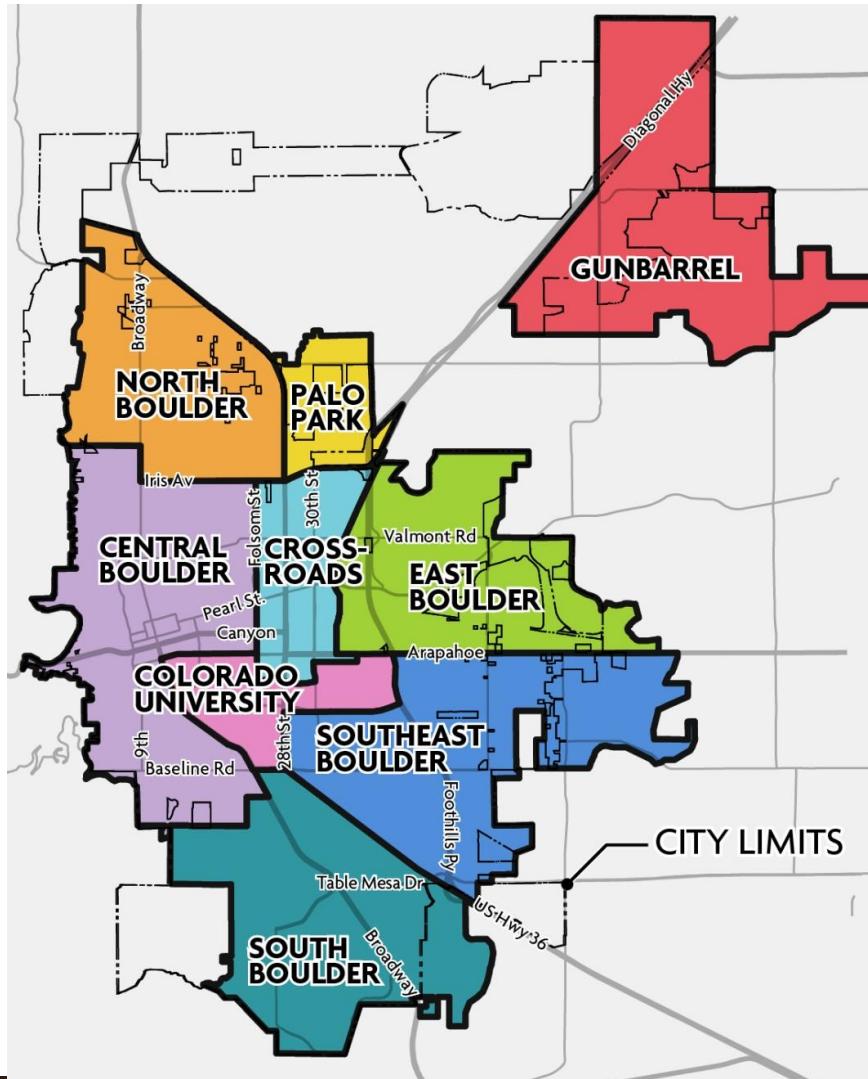


# POLICY CHOICES: BUILT ENVIRONMENT

3. Mixed Use Neighborhood Centers and Corridors (and transitions, neighborhood preservation)
4. Climate and Energy



# POLICY CHOICES: SUBCOMMUNITY/AREA PLANNING



5. Area planning: to address issues not adequately addressed at comp plan level



# POLICY CHOICES: HOUSING

Tied to scenarios:

6. Incentive-based zoning – Affordable Housing for Increased Land Use Intensity
7. Other Housing policies
  - *Middle Income Housing Goal (MIHS)*
  - *Manufactured Housing - modifications*
  - *Limit home size*
  - *Disposition of City Land*
  - *Affordable housing quality*



# DISCUSSION

- **Small Groups (1 hr.)**
- **Report out (10 min.)**

**Two questions:**

**Do you have suggestions to refine:**

- 1. The scenarios (concepts, housing types)?**
- 2. The key policy choices (overall list, specific ideas)?**



# YOUR INPUT TONIGHT

**Helps refine these materials to take to community to assess preferences before going to decision makers later this fall/winter**

**10 MINUTES FOR:**

*Questions?*

A wide-angle photograph of a mountain ridge. The foreground shows steep, rocky slopes covered with dense evergreen trees. In the distance, a valley and more mountain ranges are visible under a blue sky with scattered white clouds. A semi-transparent green horizontal band is overlaid across the middle of the image.

**THANK YOU!**  
**Please Stay Involved!**

A close-up photograph of a steep, rocky mountain slope. The rock face is composed of reddish-brown, layered rock formations. Patches of green evergreen trees are growing on the slope. The lighting suggests a sunny day with shadows cast across the rock.

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*Photo: Christopher Brown, 2004*